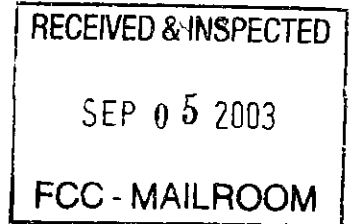


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August 29, 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445-12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Sir or Madam:

RE: CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 97-21

Request for Waiver

I wish to appeal a decision rendered by the SLD as per the attached Document 1.

Funds were allocated to provide internal connections at J. H. Sampson Elementary School under an application I filed for E-Rate. Prior to the actual installation of the internal connections, our Board of Education officially closed that school and assigned the students to attend Bynum Elementary School or Northwest Elementary School. I requested permission to have the internal connections installed at Bynum Elementary School because the majority of students from Sampson would now be attending Bynum and I felt that the percentage of students on free and reduced price meals would be basically the same at Bynum as those that Sampson.

Unfortunately, we have not been in school long enough to complete the process of all children filing for and being approved for free and reduced price meals. I do remain convinced that the percentages of children receiving free and reduced price meals for Bynum Elementary will be very close to the same as that for Sampson, making them eligible for the same services under E-Rate.

I have specific e-rate information included in the original emails to the SLD and those emails are attached to document all the data.

The grant was awarded for the children at Sampson School. Since the majority of those children are now attending Bynum (Sampson has been closed), I would like to be able to provide those internal connections for the children.

I guess I could have legally proceeded with the installation of the internal connections at the school that was being closed, but that would have been a waste of money. I'm trying to do what is right by requesting permission. Please grant me the waiver to proceed with the installation of the internal connections so the children in this poverty area can benefit from the advantages technology will provide them.

Yours truly,

Leonard A. Reaves, Director
Technology and Media Services